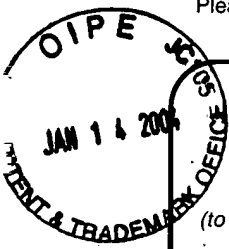


01-15-04

HDP/SB/21 based on PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐



TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/641,725		
	Filing Date	August 13, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Manfred Müller et al.	
	Group Art Unit	3742	
	Examiner Name	Unknown	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	0275M-000761

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) ____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <p>Form HDP-1449; 5 foreign patent references; return postcard.</p>
Remarks The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.	Attorney Name	Christopher A. Eusebi	Reg. No.	44,672
Signature					
Date	January 14, 2004				

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below.			
Typed or printed name	Christopher A. Eusebi	Express Mail Label No.	EV 406 075 780 US (1/14/2004)
Signature		Date	January 14, 2004

EV 406 075 780 US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/641,725
Filing Date: August 15, 2003
Applicant: Manfred Müller et al.
Group Art Unit: 3742
Examiner: Unknown
Title: FASTENER FOR AN ELECTRIC CONTACT
Attorney Docket: 0275M-000761

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, AND OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications and other information requested to be considered by the Office (except unpublished U.S. patent applications) are listed on Form 1449 attached hereto.

II. COPIES

A. ☐ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. patent application publication and U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (iii) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including the claims, and any drawing of the application which caused it to be listed including the claims directed to that portion; and (iv) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

B. ☐ Any patents, publications or other information which are listed on Form 1449 or on the copies of PTO-892, but which are not enclosed herewith, were

previously cited by or submitted to the PTO in one of the following applications which has been relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120:

U.S. Serial Number

U.S. Filing Date

C. ☒ Because the present application was/is being filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of the U.S. patents or U.S. patent application publications which are listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed pursuant to the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i). Any foreign patent documents or non-patent literature listed on the attached Form 1449 are enclosed herewith.

D. ☐ This is a PCT application in the entry of the National Phase in the United States. A copy of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information. The documents listed on the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form 1449 for consideration by the Examiner and for listing on any patent resulting from this application. Since the International Search report was from the US, EPO, or JPO search authorities, copies of these references should have been supplied to the USPTO under the trilateral agreement and are believed to be in the file of the above-identified application. (MPEP 1893.03(g).)

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

A. ☒ Except as may be indicated below in (B), all of the patents, publications or other information are in the English language (concise explanation not required).

B. ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)):

1. ☐ See the attached foreign patent office communication from a counterpart foreign application:

2. ☐ English translations are provided:

3. ☐ Other:

C. ☐ The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

IV. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION(S)

A. ☐ The Examiner is advised that the following co-pending application(s) contain(s) subject matter that may be related to the present application. By bringing this(these) application(s) to the Examiner's attention, Applicant(s) does (do) not waive the confidentiality provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122.

Serial No.

Filing Date

Art Unit

V. THIS IDS IS BEING FILED UNDER

A. ☒ **37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b):** (check only one box)

1. ☐ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d) (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1)). No fee or certification is required.

2. ☐ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(2)). No fee or certification is required.

3. ☒ before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)). No fee or certification is required.

4. ☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No fee or certification is required.

B. ☐ **37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c):** (check only one box)

before the mailing date of either any Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.

1. ☐ No certification; therefore, a fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

2. ☐ See the certification below. No fee is required.

C. ☐ **37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d):**

after the mailing date of either a Final Office Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, yet on or before payment of the issue fee.

1. ☐ See the certification below. A fee in the amount of \$180.00 is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

VI. CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e): (check only one box)

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

A. ☐ each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1)). See further statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d) below in section VII, if applicable; or

B. ☐ no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS (See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2)).

C. ☐ some of the items of information were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office. As to this information, the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS. As to the remaining information, the undersigned hereby certifies that no item of this remaining information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

VII. STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d)

The undersigned hereby states that:

☐ each item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this IDS.

VI. PAYMENT OF FEES (check only one box)

A. ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed for the above identified fee.

B. ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 08-0750 in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-indicated fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, contain matter which anticipates the invention, or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art. Furthermore, this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made.

If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule (with a petition if necessary) and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750.

Dated: _____

Jan 14, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____

Christopher A. Eusebi
Christopher A. Eusebi
Reg. No. 44,672

Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

CAE/kq

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

0275M-000761

10/641,725

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

Manfred Müller et al.

FILING DATE

GROUP

August 15, 2003

3742

Sheet 1 of 4



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
1.		2003/0202856	10/30/2003	Nilsen et al.		
2.		2002/0182027	12/05/2002	Gauron		
3.		Re. 33,766	12/10/1991	Duffy et al.		
4.		Re. 36,681	05/02/2000	Rindeer		
5.		2,144,350	01/17/1939	Swanstrom		
6.		2,144,553	01/17/1939	Simmonds		
7.		2,237,595	04/08/1941	Dyer		
8.		2,299,158	10/20/1942	Luce		
9.		2,333,386	11/02/1943	Murphy		
10.		2,384,729	09/11/1945	Darby		
11.		2,421,201	05/27/1947	Hallock		
12.		2,421,278	05/27/1947	Luce		
13.		2,429,833	10/28/1947	Luce		
14.		2,469,311	05/03/1949	Poupitch		
15.		2,575,594	11/20/1951	Reiner		
16.		2,705,991	04/12/1955	Reiner		
17.		2,825,380	03/04/1958	Reiner		
18.		2,879,820	03/31/1959	Trzcinski		
19.		2,968,329	01/17/1961	Reiner		
20.		3,189,076	06/15/1965	Adams		
21.		3,219,086	11/23/1965	Zahodiakin		

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

ATTORNEY DOCKET No.

SERIAL No.

0275M-000761

10/641,725

APPLICANT

Manfred Müller et al.

FILING DATE

GROUP

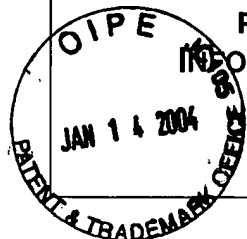
August 15, 2003

3742

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Sheet 2 of 4

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
22.		3,259,164	07/05/1966	Hernadi		
23.		3,259,165	07/05/1966	Tobian et al.		
24.		3,322,177	05/30/1967	Phelan		
25.		3,446,261	05/27/1969	Dey		
26.		3,695,324	10/03/1972	Gulistan		
27.		3,877,342	04/15/1975	Duchatellier		
28.		4,015,650	04/05/1977	Anderson		
29.		4,193,435	03/18/1980	Charles et al.		
30.		4,377,359	03/22/1983	Peterson		
31.		4,462,710	07/31/1984	Leitner		
32.		4,652,468	03/24/1987	Gould et al.		
33.		4,701,348	10/20/1987	Neville		
34.		4,762,451	09/09/1988	Collins		
35.		4,798,507	01/17/1989	Olah		
36.		4,828,440	05/09/1989	Anderson et al.		
37.		4,830,557	05/16/1989	Harris et al.		
38.		4,835,819	06/06/1989	Duffy et al.		
39.		4,856,954	08/15/1989	Peterson		
40.		4,875,816	10/24/1989	Peterson		
41.		4,911,591	03/27/1990	Oaks		

Examiner:

Date Considered:

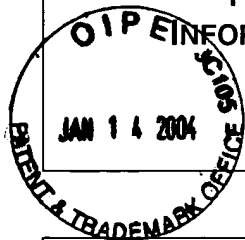
EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

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Sheet 3 of 4



ATTORNEY DOCKET No.

0275M-000761

SERIAL No.

10/641,725

APPLICANT

Manfred Müller et al.

FILING DATE

August 15, 2003

GROUP

3742

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
42.		4,984,319	01/15/1991	Reynolds		
43.		5,022,804	06/11/1991	Peterson		
44.		5,096,349	03/17/1992	Landy et al.		
45.		5,096,350	03/17/1992	Peterson		
46.		5,137,406	08/11/1992	Cosenza		
47.		5,146,668	09/15/1992	Gulistan		
48.		5,193,643	03/16/1993	McIntyre		
49.		5,221,170	06/22/1993	Duffy et al.		
50.		5,405,228	04/11/1995	Reid et al.		
51.		5,423,646	06/13/1995	Gagnon		
52.		5,542,158	08/06/1996	Gronau et al.		
53.		5,605,353	02/25/1997	Moss et al.		
54.		5,624,319	04/29/1997	Golczyk et al.		
55.		5,630,686	05/20/1997	Billmann		
56.		5,655,865	08/12/1997	Plank et al.		
57.		5,679,160	10/21/1997	Wallace et al.		
58.		5,750,190	05/12/1998	Woodhall et al.		
59.		5,918,727	07/06/1999	Wallace et al.		
60.		5,928,711	07/27/1999	Wallace et al.		
61.		5,961,264	10/05/1999	Postadan		

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

FORM HDP-1449 (Based on Form PTO-1449)

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0275M-000761

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APPLICANT

Manfred Müller et al.

FILING DATE

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August 15, 2003

3742

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

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Sheet 4 of 4

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class/ Subclass	(If appropriate) Filing Date
62.		6,027,568	02/22/2000	Wallace et al.		
63.		6,109,849	08/29/2000	Nagayama		
64.		6,141,837	11/07/2000	Wisniewski		
65.		6,146,071	11/14/2000	Norkus et al.		
66.		6,183,180	02/06/2001	Copple et al.		
67.		6,287,064	09/11/2001	Jhumra et al.		
68.		6,302,628	10/16/2001	Berecz et al.		
69.		6,357,980	03/19/2002	Lansinger		
70.		6,450,747	09/17/2002	Fischer		
71.		6,575,680	06/10/2003	Herb et al.		
72.		6,637,994	10/28/2003	Leistner		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Ref. Desig.	Examiner's Initials	Document Number	Date	Country	Class/ Subclass	Translation Yes	No
1.		EP1116890	07/18/2001	EPO		N/A	
2.		EP1202616	05/02/2002	EPO		N/A	
3.		WO 01/76811	10/18/2001	WIPO		N/A	
4.		GB2041138	09/03/1980	Great Britain		N/A	
5.		EP0405025	01/02/1991	EPO		N/A	

Examiner:

Date Considered:

EXAMINER: Please initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.